



# MALLORY

In the Forest of Lost Kites

Story by  
**Sam Steidel and William W. Steidel**  
 Artwork by William W. Steidel

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*Mallory the mouse has lived his whole life in a cozy attic. But, one day, his world is turned upside down when he takes an unintentional ride in the pocket of a runaway kite and flies to a faraway island in the Forest of Lost Kites. While exploring the forest, he saves the life of an owlet caught in a web of kite string. Soon after, Mallory finds himself standing before the great Council of Owls with the chance to propose a treaty. He must show bravery and ingenuity as he negotiates an agreement with their leader, the Great Snowy Owl. Will Mallory be able to navigate this precarious relationship with his most formidable predators?*



In the window of a small, rustic gallery on the corner of First and Hemlock Street in the village of Cannon Beach, Oregon, the artist, William W. Steidel can often be found. He sits behind a simple but ingenious swing-out easel, surrounded by a hodgepodge of artistic tools and paraphernalia. Here Bill produces his particular brand of magic. He creates works of art, spins yarns, makes music, watches the passing parade of people, and delights in the view of the lush green mountains in the distance.

“Art, I find, is an emotional food. It gives us nourishment. We feed on its many forms, and if at times it jars too roughly, tickles too uncomfortably, or soothes too frequently, it would, if not available, be sorely missed. If we were unfortunate enough to lose it, we would once more create it so we could debate why it is so very necessary.”